## STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

WHEREAS; each year, nearly 13,000 individuals across the United States are diagnosed with cervical cancer—with approximately 200 cases in Wisconsin—and more than 4,000 people die from the disease; and

WHEREAS; cervical cancer can be treated, especially if caught early, however the side effects of these treatments—including radiation, chemotherapy, and hysterectomy—can be incredibly challenging; and

WHEREAS; the human papillomavirus (HPV) has been identified as the main cause of cervical cancer, and the HPV vaccine, along with regular screenings and Pap tests, can be effective tools to prevent the disease or detect it early on; and

WHEREAS; while cervical cancer can affect anyone with a cervix, the disease disproportionately impacts underserved communities which too often lack access to healthcare services and education on preventative healthcare options; and

WHEREAS; administered by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in all 72 counties and 11 federally recognized Native Nations, the Wisconsin Well Woman Program aims to increase access to cervical health screenings, such as Pap tests, to all eligible Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin honors those whose lives have been affected by cervical cancer and joins survivors, advocates, and organizations across our state and country in working to raise awareness of cervical cancer and the importance of cervical health, reduce the stigma that surrounds seeking cervical health services, and expand access to preventative tools, education, and treatment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim January 2022 as

CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Douglas LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State